

Senator Cardin's County and Municipal Governments Guide to CARES Act Funding

Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF) – \$100 billion available nationwide

What can the allocated funding be used for? The CARES Act established a new program, the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF) to provide direct aid to health care institutions and providers to cover non-reimbursable expenses related to COVID-19 care and treatment. All non-reimbursable expenses attributable to Covid-19 qualify for funding. Examples include building or constructing temporary structures; leasing of properties; purchasing of medical supplies, personal protective equipment (PPE), and testing supplies; increasing staffing or training; and retrofitting ICUs.

It is important to note that this fund can only be used for non-reimbursable expenses. Any expenses reimbursed or obligated to be reimbursed by insurance or other mechanisms are not eligible. Should the entity subsequently

receive reimbursement for expenses from any other source after receiving funding for the same expenses from the PHSSEF fund, the entity will be required to re-pay the funding it received from the PHSSEF fund.

What is the formula for state, county and city assistance? These funds are not distributed on a formula basis, instead, HHS will reimburse allowable emergency expenses to all health care entities that provide health care, diagnoses, or testing for COVID-19. Health entities wishing to apply for this direct funding must submit an application that includes justification for payment and include a valid tax ID number.

The \$100 billion PHSSEF fund is designed to be immediately responsive to needs. HHS will review applications and make payments on a rolling basis, in order to get money into the health system as quickly as possible. This is in contrast to a more traditional competitive grant process, under which HHS would solicit applications by a certain deadline and review all applications together – a process that would take considerably more time. HHS will release the funds to health care entities on a rolling basis as qualified applications are received.

How much funding will Maryland receive? Since these funds are awarded on a reimbursable basis, this number cannot be calculated.

How can a state, territory, or local government unit apply and when can we expect funding? All health care entities that provide health care, diagnoses, or testing for COVID-19 can apply for this funding. HHS will release the funds to health care entities on a rolling basis as qualified applications are received.

Does the CARES Act provide any special flexibility or specific conditions for utilizing this funding? No, this is a new program.

CDC Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Program – \$1.5 billion available nationwide

What can the allocated funding be used for? The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program provides grant funding to state and local public health systems in order to better prepare for emergencies that impact the public's health. Grants can be used to carry out surveillance, epidemiology, lab capacity, infection control, mitigation, communications, and other preparedness and response activities.

What is the formula for state, county and city assistance? This utilizes the existing formulas used to distribute PHEP funding to states.

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How much funding will Maryland receive? Maryland will receive at least \$11,399,141 million in PHEP grant funding. In the past, Maryland has used this funding for information sharing, public health laboratory testing, community preparedness, medical material management and distribution, and medical countermeasure dispensing and distribution.

How can a state, territory, or local government unit apply and when can we expect funding? The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will automatically award the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) the funding. MDH will then allocate the PHEP funding to qualified local health departments throughout the state. MDH [maintains a list of county local health departments](#).

Does the CARES Act provide any special flexibility or specific conditions for utilizing this funding? Funds will remain available until September 30, 2024.

Community Health Centers (CHCs) – \$ 1.32 billion available nationwide

What can the allocated funding be used for? The \$1.32 billion is supplemental funding to support Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) like Community Health Centers (CHCs) and Rural Health Centers (RHCs) for the detection, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of COVID-19.

These resources will allow the health centers to continue to provide health care services to vulnerable and low-income communities as well as access testing kits, Personal Protective Equipment, infection control supplies.

What is the formula for state, county and city assistance? This utilizes the existing formulas used to distribute funds to Maryland's 17 CHCs.

How much funding will Maryland receive? The CARES Act supplemental funding is in addition to the \$1,194,822 in federal funding Maryland's 17 CHCs already received on March 26, 2020. The following locations will receive funding. ***This section will be updated as additional information becomes available.***

- Baltimore Medical System, Inc. (Baltimore)
- Chase Brexton Health Services, Inc. (Baltimore)
- Choptank Community Health System, Inc. (Caroline County)
- The Community Clinic, Inc. (Montgomery County)
- Family Health Centers Of Baltimore, Inc. (Baltimore)
- City Of Frederick (Frederick County)
- Greater Baden Medical Service, Inc. (Prince George's County)
- Health Care For The Homeless, Inc. (Baltimore)
- Mobile Medical Care, Inc. (Montgomery County)
- Owensville Primary Care, Inc. (Anne Arundel County)
- Park West Health Systems, Inc. (Baltimore)
- Three Lower Counties Community Services, Inc. (Wicomico County)
- Total Health Care, Inc. (Baltimore)
- Tri-State Community Health Center (Washington County)
- Walnut Street Community Health Center, Inc. (Washington County)
- West Cecil Health Center, Inc. (Cecil County)
- Western Maryland Health Care Corporation (Garrett County)

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How can a state, territory, or local government unit apply and when can we expect funding? The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will automatically award the Maryland community health centers with the funding.

Does the CARES Act provide any special flexibility or specific conditions for utilizing this funding? This funding is available for Fiscal Year 2020.